



Gettysburg National Military Park
1195 Baltimore Pike, Suite 100
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania 17325
<http://www.nps.gov/gett>

Battle of Gettysburg Anniversary Programs for Kids, 2012

Join Park Rangers for a special series of programs designed especially for **kids age 5 – 13**. Each morning, rangers conduct the “Join the Army” program where kids learn the basics of what it was like to be a Civil War soldier -- a cavalryman, infantryman, or artilleryman, or one of the soldiers or medical personnel who treated the wounded. Then, each afternoon from July 1 through July 4 kids can walk in the footsteps of those who participated in, or were affected by the battle of Gettysburg 149 years ago. Each program lasts one hour and is free of charge. *Note that the morning program is limited in size.*

July 1

Sunday, July 1 “Join the Army” – The Cavalry Arrives

Part 1 11:00 a.m. Visitor Center Ranger Site #1
This daily summer program is limited to the first 25 “recruits” (at the NPS Information Desk). Learn the basic duties, and see the equipment, of a Civil War cavalry soldier.

Part 2 3:00 p.m. McPherson Ridge (Auto Tour Stop #1)
Meet the park ranger to see where the battle of Gettysburg began, between Confederate Infantry and Union Cavalry. Participants will learn to scout, set up videttes and skirmish with the Rebs until the infantry arrives in force. (No participant limit for the afternoon program.)

July 2

“Join the Army” – The Defense of Cemetery Ridge

Part 1 11:00 a.m. Visitor Center Ranger Site #1
This daily summer program is limited to the first 25 “recruits” (at the NPS Information Desk). Learn the basic duties, and see the equipment, of a soldier in the 1st Minnesota Infantry Regiment.

Part 2 3:00 p.m. Pennsylvania Memorial (Auto Tour Stop #12)
Meet the Park Ranger to walk in the footsteps of the 1st Minnesota Infantry as they are asked to plug the gap in the Union line on July 2, 1863. Participants will learn to run “at the double-quick step” just like the soldier portrayed on the First Minnesota monument.
(No participant limit for the afternoon program.)

July 3

“Join the Army” –Confederate Artillery Moves Into Place

Part 1 11:00 a.m. Visitor Center Ranger Site #1

This daily summer program is limited to the first 25 “recruits” (at the NPS Information Desk). Learn the basics of being a Civil War soldier, including the duties and equipment of an artilleryman.

Part 2 3:00 p.m. Park Amphitheater parking area (between Auto Tour Stops 5 and 6)

Meet the Park Ranger to practice the artillery loading and firing drill around a full-size cannon, and then explore areas of Seminary Ridge to learn about the 2-hour cannonade of July 3, 1863.

(No participant limit for the afternoon program.)

July 4

“Join the Army” – The Medical Corps Moves In

Part 1 11:00 a.m. Visitor Center Ranger Site #1

This daily summer program is limited to the first 25 “recruits” (at the NPS Information Desk) and will include this day some activities on the casualties of war – from both sickness and battle wounds.

Part 2 3:00 p.m. Park Amphitheater parking area (between Auto Tour Stops 5 and 6)

Meet the Park Ranger to learn about and practice a proper stretcher carry, triage the “wounded”, and see all the tools used by a Civil War surgeon during the most common surgery – amputation.

(No participant limit for the afternoon program, but the subject matter for this program is not recommended for children below age 8.)



National Park Service

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